

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449 form.

The listed documents were cited in the parent of the present divisional application, Application No. 09/805,883, and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given there. The Examiner is respectfully directed to the files of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for review of those documents. (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) and MPEP § 609.)

Note that U.S. Patent No. 6,609,162 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0030766 were cited as co-pending applications during prosecution of the parent of the present divisional application, but have since been published (in view of the current practice of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for applications filed after June 30, 2003, copies of these two patent publications are not enclosed).

The Examiner is requested to indicate that the listed documents have been considered by initialing the appropriate portions of the PTO-1449 form and returning a copy of same to Applicants' attorneys of record.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. applications:


<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>TC/ART UNIT</u>
09/274,334	March 23, 1999	2626
09/363,025	July 29, 1999	2621

The Examiner is respectfully directed to the files of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for review of those documents. (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) and MPEP § 609.)

CONCLUSION

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>00862.022146.1</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>Div. of 09/805,883</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>KATSUHIKO HARA ET AL.</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>Concurr ntly Her with</b>		GROUP <b>2182</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		2001/0030766 A1	10/2001	Yamamoto	358	1.15	
		6,609,162 B1	08/2003	Shimizu et al.	710	15	
		5,371,837	12/1994	Kimber et al.	358	1.15	
		5,467,434	11/1995	Hower et al.	358	1.15	
		5,564,109	10/1996	Snyder et al.	710	8	
		5,692,111	11/1997	Marbry et al.	358	1.15	
		6,347,294	02/2002	Booker et al.	703	28	
		6,349,304	02/2002	Boldt et al.	707	102	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.